

**March 12, 2017**  
**Being God's Kingdom**  
**Experiencing God: Unit 11 Days 1-3**

**Introduction**

- Many church goers have a l\_\_\_\_\_ church mentality –
  1. “If it does not benefit our church then why do it?”
  2. God has the w\_\_\_\_\_ on His heart – so must we.
- The kingdom
  1. The “kingdom of heaven” is a term only used by M\_\_\_\_\_ where other gospels use the “kingdom of God” (the terms are synonymous – compare Matt 4:17 with Mark 1:15).
  2. The word “church” is used in the plural several times (referring to various congregations) but the word “kingdom” is only used in the plural three times all referring to e\_\_\_\_\_ kingdoms (Matt 4:8; Luke 4:5; Heb 11:33)
  3. 130+ out of the 151 times the word “kingdom” is used, it refers to the kingdom that every Christian is part of (compare to the word church – 114 times).
- Rev 1:6 states that Christ has made us to be a k\_\_\_\_\_. Are we living our every day lives as kingdom people?

**People of godly principles not rules (Rom 14:17)**

- How many people view Christianity as a bunch of negative rules? Thou shalt not....(an emphasis on what not to do)
- Rom 14:17 states that the kingdom of God consists not in rules but in righteousness, joy, and peace in the H\_\_\_\_\_ Spirit.
  1. The Roman church had two camps
    - a. Pagan background – abstained from eating meat offered to idols and from alcohol
    - b. Jewish background – drank alcohol in moderation and ate meat sacrificed to idols.
    - c. Both camps in dealing with their differences emphasized r\_\_\_\_\_ instead of applying kingdom principles.
  2. Jesus stated that the greatest two commandments follow the principle of unselfish l\_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 22:37-40). Paul applied this principle in verse 15.
  3. Three kingdom principles:
    - a. R\_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy Spirit
      - 1) We are declared righteous by our f\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ (Rom 5:1)
      - 2) We are to continue to live in a way that r\_\_\_\_\_ a right relationship with God (contrast that with rules – don't drink, don't smoke, don't watch T.V., don't...)
    - b. P\_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy Spirit

- 1) We are at peace with God when we accept C\_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 5:1).
  - 2) We are to be at peace with one a\_\_\_\_\_ as an outgrowth of our relationship to God.
- c. J\_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy Spirit
- 1) Many people try to derive their joy by the things of this w\_\_\_\_\_ (possessions, financial security, even sin!)
  - 2) We must derive our joy from the e\_\_\_\_\_ – our relationship with God.

## **People of godly power not words (I Cor 4:20)**

●The kingdom is the realm in which God’s power operates effectively. 1 Cor 4:20 states that the kingdom of God:

1. Is NOT a matter of w\_\_\_\_\_
2. IS a matter of supernatural p\_\_\_\_\_

●The Corinthians wrongly emphasized a power in their words.

1. 1:11,12 – “I follow so and so” (3:4-6 states that these words produced a worldly attitude – “are you not living like mere m\_\_\_\_\_?”)
2. 5:1,2 – they boasted of how loving they were in overlooking s\_\_\_\_\_ (5:4,5 – must deal with sin in a way that allows God’s power to operate)
3. 6:1 – some Christians tried to settle their disputes by going to c\_\_\_\_\_ (verse 5 states that disputes must be settled in the realm of the saints – this is where God’s power operates).
4. 11-14 – many tried to gain power by “speaking in tongues.” They were interested only in words rather than the power of God

●Today, many have fallen to an emphases on words:

1. Formulas for casting out demons (Acts 19:13-17)
2. Formulas for doing miracles (Matt 7:22,23)
3. Formulas for getting saved (sinners prayer)
4. Procedures in bringing conviction (emotional manipulation)

●We must live in the realm of God’s power

## **Conclusion:**

●Rev 1:6 defines being God’s kingdom as being p\_\_\_\_\_

1. We are the world’s connection to C\_\_\_\_\_
2. God has the w\_\_\_\_\_ on His heart (Jn 3:16) and wants to save people from every walk of life and will do so (Rev 5:9). Do you share God’s heart?

**●When you get up in the morning remember you are to be God's kingdom to those around you!**